



Media may contact

Gary Schmitz, 303-275-4050

gary_schmitz@nrel.gov

NREL Highlights Leading Utility Green Power Programs

Pricing programs give consumers clean power choices

Golden, Colo., April 22, 2008 – The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) today released its annual ranking of leading utility green power programs. Under these voluntary programs, consumers can choose to help support additional electricity production from renewable resources such as solar and wind. More than 800 utilities across the United States offer these programs.

Using information provided by utilities, NREL develops "Top 10" rankings of utility programs in the following categories: total sales of renewable energy to program participants, total number of customer participants, customer participation rate, green power sales as a percentage of total utility retail electricity sales, and the lowest price premium charged for a green power program using new renewable resources.

Ranked by renewable energy sales, the green power program of Austin (Texas) Energy is first in the nation, followed by Portland General Electric, PacifiCorp, Florida Power & Light, and Xcel Energy.

Ranked by customer participation rates, the top utilities are City of Palo Alto (Calif.) Utilities, Lenox (Iowa) Municipal Utilities, Silicon Valley Power (Calif.), Portland General Electric, and Sacramento Municipal Utility District. (See attached tables for additional rankings).

"Utility green power programs continue to expand across the country," said Lori Bird, senior energy analyst at NREL. "These utilities are the national leaders."

Customer choice programs are proving to be a powerful stimulus for growth in renewable energy supply. In 2007, total utility green power sales exceeded 4.5 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh), about a 20% increase over 2006. Approximately 600,000 customers are participating in utility programs nationwide.

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Utility green pricing programs are one segment of a larger green power marketing industry that counts Fortune 500 companies, government agencies and colleges and universities among its customers, and helps support more than 3,000 MW of new renewable electricity generation capacity.

NREL analysts attribute the success of many programs to persistence in marketing and creative marketing strategies, including in some cases, utility partnerships with independent green power marketers. In addition, the rate premium that customers pay for green power continues to drop.

NREL performs analyses of green power market trends and is funded by DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

NREL is the U.S. Department of Energy's primary national laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development. NREL is operated for DOE by Midwest Research Institute and Battelle.

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Green Pricing Program Renewable Energy Sales (as of December 2007)

Rank	Utility	Resources Used	Sales (kWh/year)	Sales (aMW) ^a
1	Austin Energy	Wind, landfill gas	577,636,840	65.9
2	Portland General Electric ^b	Geothermal, biomass, wind	553,677,903	63.2
3	PacifiCorp ^{cde}	Wind, biomass, landfill gas, solar	383,618,885	43.8
4	Florida Power & Light ^b	Biomass, wind, landfill gas, solar	373,596,000	42.6
5	Xcel Energy ^{ef}	Wind	326,553,866	37.3
6	Sacramento Municipal Utility District ^e	Wind, landfill gas, small hydro, solar	275,481,584	31.4
7	Puget Sound Energy ^e	Wind, solar, biomass, landfill gas	246,406,200	28.1
8	Basin Electric Power Cooperative	Wind	226,474,000	25.9
9	National Grid ^{gh}	Biomass, wind, small hydro, solar	180,209,571	20.6
10	PECO ⁱ	Wind	160,000,000	18.3

^a An "average megawatt" (aMW) is a measure of continuous capacity equivalent (i.e., operating at a 100% capacity factor).

^b Marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company. For Portland General Electric, some products marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^c Includes Pacific Power and Rocky Mountain Power.

^d Some Oregon products marketed in partnership with 3Degrees Group, Inc.

^e Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org). For Xcel Energy, the Colorado and Minnesota Windsource products are *Green-e* certified.

^f Includes Northern States Power, Public Service Company of Colorado, and Southwestern Public Service.

^g Includes Niagara Mohawk, Massachusetts Electric, Narragansett Electric, and Nantucket Electric.

^h Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, Inc., EnviroGen, Green Mountain Energy Company, Mass Energy, People's Power & Light, and Sterling Planet.

ⁱ Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, Inc.



Total Number of Customer Participants
(as of December 2007)

Rank	Utility	Program(s)	Participants
1	Xcel Energy ^a	<i>Windsource^b</i> <i>Renewable Energy Trust</i>	75,534
2	Portland General Electric ^{c,g}	<i>Clean Wind</i> <i>Green Source</i>	61,543
3	PacifiCorp ^{d,e}	<i>Blue Sky Block^b</i> <i>Blue Sky Usage^b</i> <i>Blue Sky Habitat</i>	60,539
4	Sacramento Municipal Utility District	<i>Greenergy^b</i>	43,543
5	PECO ^f	<i>PECO WIND</i>	38,548
6	Florida Power & Light ^g	<i>Sunshine Energy</i>	37,184
7	National Grid ^{hi}	<i>GreenUp</i>	24,429
8	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	<i>Green Power for a Green LA</i>	22,788
9	Puget Sound Energy	<i>Green Power Program^b</i>	20,457
10	Energy East (NYSEG/RGE) ^f	<i>Catch the Wind</i>	19,520

^a Includes Northern States Power, Public Service Company of Colorado, and Southwestern Public Service.

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ⁱ Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, EnviroGen, Green Mountain Energy Company, Mass Energy, People's Power & Light, and Sterling Planet.



Customer Participation Rate (as of December 2007)

Rank	Utility	Customer Participation Rate	Program(s)	Program Start Year
1	City of Palo Alto Utilities ^{ab}	20.4%	<i>Palo Alto Green</i>	2003
2	Lenox Municipal Utilities ^c	14.3%	<i>Green City Energy</i>	2003
3	Silicon Valley Power ^{ab}	8.7%	<i>Santa Clara Green Power</i>	2004
4	Portland General Electric ^d	8.5%	<i>Clean Wind, Green Source, Renewable Future</i>	2002
5	Sacramento Municipal Utility District ^b	7.4%	<i>Greenergy</i>	1997
6	City of Naperville Public Utilities ^e	6.7%	<i>Renewable Energy Program</i>	2005
7	Montezuma Municipal Light & Power ^c	6.2%	<i>Green City Energy</i>	2003
8	Pacific Power (Oregon only) ^{ab}	5.7%	<i>Blue Sky Usage, Habitat, Block</i>	2002
9	River Falls Municipal Utilities ^f	5.3%	<i>Renewable Energy Program</i>	2001
10	Holy Cross Energy	5.2%	<i>Wind Power Pioneers Local Renewable Energy Pool</i>	1998 2002

^a Marketed in partnership with 3Degrees Group, Inc.

^b Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org).

^c Program offered in association with the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities.

^d Some products marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^e Marketed in partnership with Community Energy, Inc.

^f Power supplied by Wisconsin Public Power Inc.



Green Power Sales as a Percentage of Total Retail Electricity Sales (in kWh)
(as of December 2007)

Rank	Utility	Program Name	% of Load
1	Edmond Electric ^a	<i>Pure & Simple</i>	5.7%
2	Austin Energy	<i>GreenChoice</i>	5.0%
3	City of Palo Alto Utilities ^{bd}	<i>PaloAltoGreen</i>	4.6%
4	Portland General Electric ^c	<i>Clean Wind, Green Source, Renewable Future</i>	2.9%
5	Silicon Valley Power, City of Santa Clara ^{bd}	<i>Santa Clara Green Power</i>	2.8%
6	Sacramento Municipal Utility District ^d	<i>Greenenergy</i>	2.6%
7	Basin Electric Power Cooperative	<i>PrairieWinds</i>	1.9%
7	Pacific Power (Oregon only) ^{bde}	<i>Blue Sky Usage, Habitat, Block</i>	1.9%
9	Emerald People's Utility District	<i>EPUD Renewables</i>	1.8%
10	Public Service Company of New Mexico	<i>PNM Sky Blue</i>	1.5%
10	Roseville Electric ^{bd}	<i>Green Roseville</i>	1.5%

^a Power supplied by Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority.

^b Marketed in partnership with 3Degrees Group, Inc.

^c Marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

^d Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org).

^e Renewable portfolio options offered to Oregon customers.



Price Premium Charged for New, Customer-Driven Renewable Power^a
(as of December 2007)

Rank	Utility	Resources Used	Premium (¢/kWh)
1	Edmond Electric ^{bc}	Wind	0.09
2	OG&E Electric Services ^b	Wind	0.10
3	Austin Energy ^{be}	Wind, landfill gas	0.16
4	Indianapolis Power and Light	Wind, landfill gas	0.20
5	Park Electric Cooperative	Wind	0.22
6	Avista Utilities	Wind, landfill gas, biomass	0.33
7	Xcel Energy (Minnesota) ^{bdf}	Wind	0.58
8	Clallam County Public Utility District ^b	Landfill gas	0.70
9	PacifiCorp ^{dg}	Wind, biomass, landfill gas, solar	0.78
10	Portland General Electric ^h	Biomass, Geothermal, Wind	0.80
10	Emerald People's Utility District	Wind	0.80

^a Includes only programs that have installed or announced firm plans to install or purchase power from 100% new renewable resources.

^b Premium is variable; customers in these programs are exempt or otherwise protected from changes in utility fuel charges.

^c Power supplied by Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority.

^d Product is *Green-e* certified (www.green-e.org).

^e The price for new customers enrolling in the program (fourth batch of renewable energy capacity).

^f Net premium of the Minnesota *Windsor* program.

^g Pacific Power *Blue Sky Usage* product; only available in Oregon. Product marketed in partnership with 3Degrees Group, Inc.

^h Portland General Electric *Green Source* Product. Product marketed in partnership with Green Mountain Energy Company.

